

**THE WHITE HOUSE**  
**WASHINGTON**

85- 3410

## CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM

**Date:** 9/5/85 **Number:** 316980CA **Due By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Subject:** Economic Policy Council Meeting - September 5, 1985

2:00 P.M. - Roosevelt Room

ALL CABINET MEMBERS	Action	FYI		Action	FYI
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OSTP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McFarlane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Svahn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chew (For WH Staffing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hicks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chief of Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Executive Secretary for:		
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DPC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GSA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EPC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EPA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NASA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OPM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SBA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Attached is an additional paper for the Economic Policy Council meeting scheduled for today at 2:00 p.m.

**RETURN TO:**

☐ Alfred H. Kingon  
Cabinet Secretary  
456-2823  
(Ground Floor, West Wing)

☐ Don Clarey  
☐ Rick Davis  
☐ Ed Stucky

Associate Director  
Office of Cabinet Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ECONOMIC POLICY COUNCIL

FROM:

EUGENE J. McALLISTER *EM*

SUBJECT:

Additional Paper for the September 5 Meeting

At yesterday's meeting, the Council asked that an outline of a potential commission on international trade policy be prepared for the Council's consideration at the September 5 meeting. A small working group has developed an outline, reviewing possible membership, charter, and timing of such a commission. A paper describing a potential commission is attached.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ECONOMIC POLICY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Possible Commission on Trade Policy

At yesterday's meeting, the Council asked that a working group outline how a bi-partisan Commission on International Trade Policy might be constituted. The Working Group has developed the following suggestions on the membership, charter, and timing of the Commission.

The Commission's primary purpose is to defuse the protectionist impulse in Congress and slow down protectionist legislation. A secondary purpose is to promote the Administration's legislative agenda in seeking an extension of our authority to engage in multilateral talks.

1. Membership

The best model for such a Commission is the National Commission on Social Security Reform, in which 5 members were appointed by the President, 5 by the Majority Leader of the Senate, and 5 by the Speaker of the House.

It might be desirable to expand the membership of the Trade Policy Commission because it is not trying to develop specific legislation, as the National Commission on Social Security Reform was. It might also be desirable to require that some of the Speaker and Majority Leader appointments not be members of Congress.

2. Charter: The Commission might be directed to:

- a. Identify the underlying causes of the trade deficit. By first looking at the causes of the trade deficit, the Commission would be establishing the context in which all its recommendations would be evaluated.
- b. Identify barriers to U.S. exports of goods and services, and propose recommendations to eliminate such barriers, legislatively or administratively. The areas to be investigated by the Commission would include, for example, the following:
  - Agriculture
  - Government Procurement
  - Intellectual Property
  - Services
  - High technology
  - Investment

- c. Identify and analyze the problems of our import sensitive industries, and the policy trade-offs involved in helping them. The report should propose recommendations on whether relief and assistance should be provided such industries, to what degree, and under what circumstances.
3. Product: A report to the President with specific recommendations for legislative and/or executive action.
4. Timing: The Commission would be asked to complete its work by March or June 1986.

Ultimately the viability and success of the Commission will depend on our ability to convince key members of Congress that it is a good faith effort to develop a bi-partisan approach to the trade problem, and the ability of the chairman to keep the Commission operating within its charter.